

PLANNER



VOL. I, NO. 3

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
PLANNING COUNCIL

SEPT./OCT. 1977

DDAN DESIGNATED BY GOV. SHAPP AS P & A AGENCY

Governor Milton J. Shapp announced that he has designated Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Network, Inc. (DDAN) to implement a protection and advocacy system for developmentally disabled persons in Pennsylvania. The Governor said that this designation, required by the federal Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, Public Law 94-103, should better enable our developmentally disabled citizens to lead a more productive life and to participate more fully in society. Shapp also thanked the State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council for preparing a comprehensive plan for the new protection and advocacy system and for their suggestion that DDAN be designated to implement the system.

Public Law 94-103 requires each state to develop a comprehensive plan which will bring together all available resources to serve developmentally disabled persons. The law defines a developmentally disabled person as one who is mentally retarded, cerebral palsied, epileptic, autistic, or dyslexic, whose disability occurred before the age of 18 and constitutes a substantial handicap. It is estimated that there are as many as 718,000 Pennsylvanians whose lifestyles are limited by one or more of these conditions.

Each state must "effect a system to protect and advocate the rights of persons with developmental disabilities" which has "the authority to pursue legal, administrative and appropriate remedies" and be "independent of any agency providing treatment, services or habilitation to persons with developmental disabilities."

The DDAN, Inc., Board is composed of fifteen members derived from Pennsylvania Association for Retarded Citizens, state chapters of United Cerebral Palsy and Epilepsy Foundation of America, the National Society for Autistic Children and the Pennsylvania Association for Children with Learning Disabilities, representing the major consumer groups to which developmental disabilities legislation applies at the present time.

GOALS

DDAN will address the following goals:

1. To insure representation for individuals or organizations without otherwise adequate representational resources on matters relevant to the protection of the legal and human rights of developmentally disabled persons;
2. To provide information on the rights of individuals to developmentally disabled persons themselves, their families, surrogates, advocates, counsel, and other representatives, professionals, and public officials;
3. To promote training and education of the general public and professionals to perform advocacy functions;
4. To promote coordination and utilization among the agencies providing protection and advocacy services to persons with developmental disabilities;
5. To ascertain through experience or investigative techniques the gaps and deficiencies in the services and in the protection of rights of individuals with developmental disabilities;
6. To create a legislative-based entity to operate the Pennsylvania Protection and Advocacy System.

DDAN, Inc., was designated Pennsylvania's Protection and Advocacy Implementing Agency by Governor Shapp on July 26, 1977, and is awaiting federal approval via HEW to become operational.

COUNTY SERVICE DIRECTORIES READY FOR DISTRIBUTION

Directories of services for developmentally disabled individuals based on information gleaned from a year-long DD Planning Council survey for each of Pennsylvania's 67 counties are off the press and available on request from the Council by mail or phone by those who are interested in receiving copies.

On the basis of responses received, the survey reveals that there are 2,024 organizations in Pennsylvania which deliver services to individuals with developmental disabilities either as a primary or secondary activity; an additional 1,640 organizations serve such citizens on an incidental basis.

Each county directory lists organizations alphabetically by post office address and name, services available, population served, and client eligibility.

The directories are currently being mailed to local providers, state agencies, county commissioners, community planning agencies, volunteer and consumer groups and their local chapters and affiliates.

For further information, please contact Michael Adams, Systems Coordinator at the DD Council by mail or phone: (717) 787-6057.

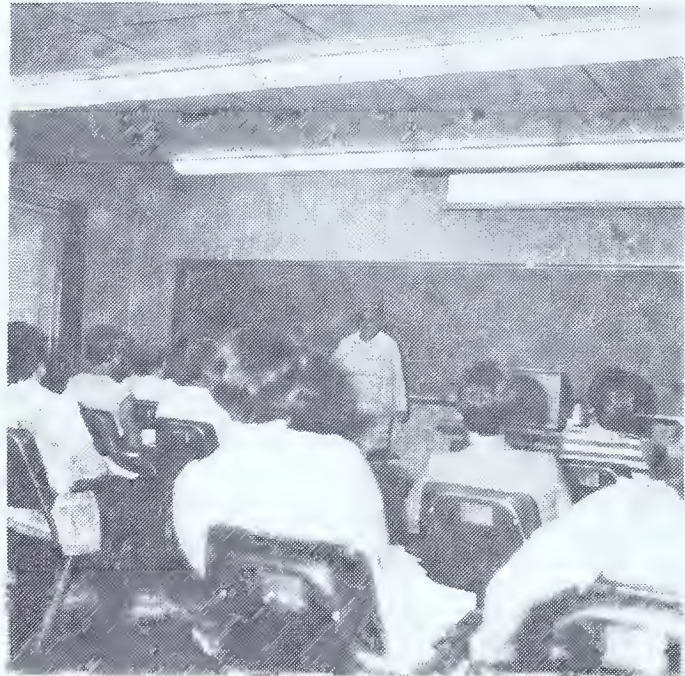
INCLUDING ME

INCLUDING ME is an hour-long documentary that profiles the lives of six handicapped children. The national telecast will be presented on PBS September 15, 1977 at 9:00 p.m.

Many local stations across the country are planning live community outreach follow-up programs that will actively involve parents, educators, government officials and leaders of organizations serving handicapped persons in a discussion of the important issues raised by **INCLUDING ME**. You can become involved!

PROJECT SHARE

PA. FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS ACTIVATES PROJECT SHARE TO AID DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED



Jeanne "Hap" Feeley, Director of Recreation and Camping for Pennsylvania Easter Seal Society, explains Project HATCH to a workshop group of the Pennsylvania Federation of Women's Clubs at Pennsylvania State University July 20.

At the Pennsylvania Federation of Women's Clubs 21st Annual Summer Conference July 20 on the Pennsylvania State University campus, an education workshop explored specific projects to most effectively pursue Project SHARE in the Keystone state's Federation which represents 50,000 women and 300-400 clubs.

Project SHARE is specifically intended to involve in the most meaningful and effective way the impressive womanpower represented by PFWC and the parent General Federation in the solution of problems with which the developmentally disabled are confronted.

HATCH

Marian Fresch and Fran Lopus co-chaired the workshop conducted by Patti McGrath, Director of the Special Program Division of the Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults, and Jeanne Feeley, the Society's Director of Recreation and Camping. Of particular interest was "Hap" Feeley's description of the HATCH (Health and the Challenge) program which is designed to motivate career-seeking teenagers in the pursuit of vocations in the health field. Young people spend several weeks at Camp Easter Seal in Laurel Hill, Somerset, Pennsylvania, working with the developmentally disabled. During their stay at the camp, they go on field trips to Ebensburg Center, Harmarsville Rehabilitation Center, Johnstown Rehabilitation Center and the Easter Seal Society facilities of Allegheny County.

RECRUITMENT

The PFWC will address itself to recruitment and sponsorship of young people for the HATCH program specifically during the next two to four year duration of Project SHARE.

DD PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING, JULY 28, 1977

The July 28th meeting of the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council in the Sheraton-Harrisburg Inn marked the achievement of certain primary objectives and rapport regarding proposed future goals and how best they can be achieved.

Executive Director Lee Rubin announced that Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Network, Inc. (DDAN) had been officially designated by Governor Shapp as Pennsylvania's protection and advocacy implementing agency on July 26.

DDAN Endorsed

The State Plan for FY 1978 was enthusiastically endorsed by Council, signed by Chairperson Arthur L. Berger, and subsequently submitted to HEW. Immediate objectives of the 1978 Plan include the development and introduction of legislation to provide legal authority and appropriations for the DD Planning Council toward the long-range goal of attainment of legal and human rights for all individuals with developmental disabilities, to gather data on availability of programs for prevention, early identification, screening and intervention presently existing in the Commonwealth and to establish regionally-organized systems of developmental screening and counseling clinics, and to work toward a comprehensive state system of institutional reform, deinstitutionalization, and expansion of community-based residential housing and services for the developmentally disabled.

Senate Bill 979 Reviewed

Sandy Leopold, consultant to the Pennsylvania Senate Health and Welfare Committee, and Carla Morgan of Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia presented an overview of proposed Senate Bill 979, the Mental Retardation Residential Placement Procedures Act which outlines procedures for the placement and care of mentally retarded persons in residential facilities and for the rights of mentally retarded persons.

Council members expressed concern about two problems which might arise in the future. The first area was the placement of a mental retardation advocacy system whose dollar support was so intricately tied into the funding of the Developmental Disabilities formula grant program that the question of what would happen to that funding had to be resolved if the extension of the Developmental Disabilities legislation did not continue beyond September 30, 1978, at which time the current law, Public Law 94-103, expires. Federal legislation is currently being drafted which will supersede the present law. It was also pointed out that SB 979 was written in such a way that at such time as the Governor has designated a private non-profit agency as the implementing agency for the Protection and Advocacy System, this same agency might also become the implementing agency for the mental retardation advocacy system as discussed in Senate Bill 979.

A second cause of great concern to Council members was the specificity of mental retardates to the exclusion of all other developmentally disabled people within the Commonwealth. The community living arrangements mentioned within the Bill exclude people from those facilities unless their primary diagnosis is mental retardation.

Developmental Disabilities To Be Defined

Norman Lourie, who chairs the Congressionally-commissioned National Task Force on the Definition of Developmental Disabilities, updated Council on the activities of his group which has addressed itself to the basic problem of whether to use a medical model "laundry list" approach which categorizes handicaps, or a more flexible frame of reference based on functional limitations and the actual needs of the individual. The issue of diagnostic label versus service needs is further complicated by the necessity to define "severity" of a handicap and the limitations imposed by the age of onset of that condition.

Public Law 94-103 presently defines developmental disability as a disability of a person which is attributable to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or is attributable to any other condition found to be closely related to mental retardation because such condition results in similar impairment of general intellectual functioning or adaptive behavior to that of mentally retarded persons or requires treatment and services similar to those required for such persons; or is attributable to dyslexia resulting from a disability described above, originates before age 18, has continued or can be expected to continue indefinitely, and constitutes a substantial handicap to such person's ability to function normally in society.

The final recommendations of Mr. Lourie's task force in their quest for a more meaningful definition of developmental disabilities will be submitted to Congress in October following its final meeting in September.

Following Lourie's comments, Daniel Torisky, of the National Society of Autistic Children, proposed a resolution which carried unanimously. The resolution proposed that while Council endorses Senate Bill 979 "in principle," all communications to State Senator W. Louis Coppersmith's Health and Welfare Committee should express concern that other developmental disabilities are excluded and emphasize the immediate need for non-exclusionary, all-encompassing legislation to provide services, protection and advocacy for all developmentally-disabled citizens.

ANTIEPILEPTIC DRUG LEVEL QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAM

The Pennsylvania Division, Epilepsy Foundation of America reports that 471 laboratories are now participating in the Antiepileptic Drug Level Quality Control Program. This cooperative effort between the Department of Neurology at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Epilepsy Foundation of America, established in 1974, evaluates the performance of participating laboratories in the treatment of people with epilepsy.

Laboratory work is often requested by doctors to determine the level of anticonvulsant drugs in the bloodstream of a person with epilepsy. The blood analysis is necessary to determine how much anticonvulsant medication is being absorbed so that dosage levels can be adjusted to achieve maximum seizure control with minimum side effects. Accuracy from these test results is essential in successfully administering treatment.

ADLQCP works with participating laboratories to determine and improve the accuracy of their testing procedures. To do this, samples containing known amounts of anticonvulsant drugs are sent to labs monthly. The labs analyze the sample to determine the drug level and return their results to the Anticonvulsant Drug Evaluation Laboratory at Columbia University where a list is compiled comparing the results obtained from the lab tests with the actual antiepileptic drug level in the sample. In this way, a laboratory can determine the accuracy of their testing procedures and seek advice through the Program and other laboratories to improve their analysis methods.

An updated directory of the 471 laboratories voluntarily participating in the Program can be obtained from

*Department of Neurology, College of
Physicians and Surgeons
Columbia University
New York City, N.Y.*

OUTDOOR VACATION FOR THE YOUNG HANDICAPPED ADULTS



Young Adult Handicapped from Western PA preparing to depart for a Tioga County resort.

Forty-five handicapped citizens of the tri-county area, Armstrong, Indiana and Westmoreland embarked from the Spring Church United Cerebral Palsy of Western Pennsylvania Center under the sponsorship of Young Adult Handicapped, Inc. of Kittanning, Pennsylvania. The group headed northeast to the beautifully wooded area of the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania in Tioga County. There they stayed at a Dude Ranch (Winter Ski Resort) in Oregon Hills.

Days were filled with activities seldom experienced by handicapped adults--a tour of the Grand Canyon by car, fishing, swimming, a special aerial view of the Grand Canyon via a five seated "Piper", a shopping excursion into Wellsboro, Pa., church services in Wellsboro and a cook-out in the mountain air.

Evenings were spent dining and being entertained in "Ye Olde Saw Mill," a rustic but very comfortable restaurant.

Approximately fifteen staff and volunteers accompanied the forty-five handicapped adults.

Needless to say, the four days were eventful and tiring, but very satisfying.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Advisory Board to Sec. of L & I on Architectural Barriers

Contact: (717) 787-3323 for dates and locations

September 8, 1977

State Advisory Committee for the Blind
Room 326, Health & Welfare Bldg. - 10:00 am

September 9, 1977

MH/MR Advisory Council
Room 326, Health & Welfare Bldg. - 10:00 am

September 10, 1977

Statewide Health Coordinating Council
Holiday Inn Town - 10:00-4:00

September 14-15, 1977

Lycoming County Epilepsy Foundation Tag Day

September 15, 1977

Human Services Management Council
Room 238, Main Capitol - 1:00 pm

September 20, 1977

State Board of Vocational Rehabilitation
Sec's Conference Room
17th floor, L & I Building - 10:00 am

September 20, 1977

Architectural & Trans. Barriers Compliance Board
Washington, D.C.

September 21, 1977

Gov's Committee on Physically Handicapped
Room G24, Wm. Penn Museum - 10:00 am

September 23, 1977

Annual Conference
Gov's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped
Hershey Convention Center

September 24, 1977

PARC
Holiday Inn Town 9:30 am

September 25, 1977

Epilepsy Foundation
Lancaster County Service Unit
Horse-a-thon for Epilepsy
Contact: Bethany Presby. Church

September 25-28, 1977

Nat'l Welfare Fraud Assn.
Annual Training Conference
Airport Hilton Hotel
Phoenix, Arizona

September 28-29

Child Development Committee
Penn Harris Motor Inn

September 29, 1977

Implementation Committee for Gov's Conf. on Hdcp. Individuals

September 30, 1977
 Developmentally Disabilities Planning Council
 Call (717) 787-6057 for details

OCTOBER
 Advisory Board to Sec. of L & I on
 Architectural Barriers
 Contact: (717) 787-3323 for dates and locations

October 5-9, 1977
 American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and
 Developmental Medicine
 Hyatt Regency House
 Atlanta

October, 6-8, 1977
 Child Neurology Society
 Charlottesville, VA
 Open to all physicians
 Contact: Child Neurology Society
 Box 486 Mayo
 420 Delaware St., SE
 Minneapolis, Minn. 55455

October 6-10, 1977
 PA Council for Exceptional Children Annual
 Conference
 Seven Springs Resort

October 14, 1977
 MH/MR Advisory Council
 Room 326, Health & Welfare Bldg. - 10:00 am

October 19, 1977
 Gov's Com. for the Physically Hdep.
 Room G24, Wm. Penn Museum - 10:00 am

October 20-22, 1977
 Easter Seal
 Annual Educational Institute & Convention
 Altoona Sheraton

October 20, 1977
 Human Services Management Council
 Room 238, Main Capitol - 1:00 pm

October 20, 1977
 Nat'l Assoc. for Music Therapy, Inc.
 Disneyland Hotel
 Anaheim, California

THE GRAND STAND – PLANNER

A Joint Bi-Monthly Publication
 of the
 Governor's Committee for the
 Physically Handicapped
 Francis X. Coyle, Chr.
 George W. Severns, Jr.
 Publications, Chr.

and the

Developmental Disabilities
 Planning Council
 Arthur L. Berger, Chr.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
 The Honorable Milton J. Shapp
 Governor of Pennsylvania

John H. Snyder, Governor's Advocate
 for the Physically Handicapped

Lee Rubin, Executive Director
 Pennsylvania Developmental
 Disabilities Planning Council

PRESIDENT CARTER ADDRESSES CONFERENCE ON HANDICAPPED

President Carter gave the keynote address at the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals May 23, 1977. His remarks were received with the warmth and enthusiasm equal to that which he radiated. Perhaps his comments could be summarized in three categories: his commitment to the handicapped population, his promises for governmental reforms and his charge to the delegation.

COMMITMENT

"I am very proud to be here tonight in what I think is an historic occasion that will perhaps go down in the history of our country as a turning point in the minds and hearts of the American people in their long overdue concern about a large group of Americans, about 36 million, who in the past have too often been ignored." President Carter went on to say that there is hardly a national leader on earth in all the 150 nations that span the globe who is not now thinking about two words: "Human rights." And now we in our own country are applying those two words to the handicapped people of our country. The time for discrimination against the handicapped in the United States is over.

PROMISE FOR REFORMS

Mr. Carter stated that "we are going to enforce the regulations that tear down the barriers of architecture and . . . transportation." Section 504 regulations are going to be enforced. "Employers will give a handicapped person a fair chance to correct the handicap and become qualified for an available job." He reminded the delegates that more than 100 different programs already exist which are administered by many different agencies. That set-up "means that many of you who have sought for a long time to take advantage of these programs had to go to four or five or six different agencies to get the simple treatment or opportunities which you deserve under the law." He explained that one of the

good benefits of the reorganization authority that Congress had given him would be to bring all those programs for the handicapped together into one agency so that they could be understood and taken advantage of. He spoke of his desire to prevent handicapping conditions in the future and programs outlined to bring that about.

CHARGE TO THE DELEGATES

In closing, President Carter gave this charge to the delegates. "You have bound yourselves together in a common purpose, understanding one another and overcoming the differences that exist among you, now you must try to understand the special needs of the non-handicapped, to understand the need of other handicapped people. It is not a time for hatred or lashing out or recrimination or condemnation of the non-handicapped for the long delays in meeting your needs, because many people who are not handicapped cannot understand those special needs. So it is a time of education both ways, and for a realization that only when we work together-the handicapped who are leaders, the handicapped who will always be dependent, the potentially handicapped child who wants to have that prevented, and the non-handicapped adult leader — can we continue to make even greater progress."

CONGRATULATIONS...

to Rudolph Lutter, Esq., on his recent commendation from the PA Senate for his contributions to humanity through his practice of law, teaching, and efforts on behalf of the handicapped. Mr. Lutter is a senior attorney at the Washington headquarters of the Federal Communications Commission and a member of the Blind Lawyers Association of America.

NOT JUST "A SPECTATOR"



From "Not Just a Spectator"
Distributed by The International Rehabilitation Film Library*

The International Rehabilitation Film Review Library* has available a series of excellent films recommended for teaching/training/demonstrating physical skills which are open to the handicapped. Among the wide variety of activities demonstrated are basketball, fencing, bowling on the green, track and field events, archery, gymnastics, swimming, sailing, kayaking, rock-climbing, spelunking, fishing, birdwatching, wheelchair dancing, skeetshooting, cross-country hiking, water-skiing, bowling and horseback riding.

The films are based on the premise that the disabled would like to take part in these activities if only facilities and proper training were provided. Example after example is presented in these films illustrating success after the necessary leadership and equipment were supplied. Training in technique and safety is stressed. Successful integration of the disabled into society through vigorous recreation is demonstrated.

This series of films should prove useful to every category of personnel involved with the disabled as well as the disabled themselves. *(Address: 20 West 40th Street, NY, NY 10018.)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING MEDIA

Parents magazine has developed two sound and color film strips sets:

"Children With Handicaps" and "Support From the Community." Each of the sets contains five film strips. However, the content of each one is self-contained. The filmstrip set will be especially useful in special education courses, education for parenthood and family life classes at the high school, college and university levels as well as by community agencies, public and private. These filmstrips are suitable for instructional use by parents, organizations, professionals, paraprofessionals and students interested in the disabled.

The filmstrips have an organized structure and will be effective in most situations if used in sequence and in 5 separate sessions. However, since the content of each is self-contained, each can be shown at the point where it will most enrich the individual curriculum.

Various professionals who wish to stress their own discipline will find the filmstrips a lively, stimulating way to enrich their lectures on one-to-one student projects. The benefits of a discussion period following each filmstrip showing cannot be over-emphasized.

These filmstrips may be borrowed from the Office of the Governor's Advocate for the Physically Handicapped. Call (717) 783-8348 for scheduling as well as for additional information.

THERAPEUTIC RECREATION

INSTITUTE

The 9th Annual Therapeutic Recreation Institute was held at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, June 27-30. It was co-sponsored by the PA Therapeutic Recreation Society (a branch of the PA Recreation and Park Society) and Department of Community Affairs Municipal Training Division and the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation. A great deal of emphasis was placed on services to the handicapped in the community. Workshops included: Programming for Special Populations in a Community Setting; Facilitating Cooperative Relationships with Community Recreation; Laws Relating to the Handicapped; Handicapped Viewpoint of Recreational Services; Group Homes, etc.

The Institute was started 9 years ago for the purpose of providing training, education and an opportunity for sharing together by Supervisors of Therapeutic Recreation, staff, aids, volunteers and anyone interested in the recreation and leisure time of the handicapped population. Co-Directors were Mr. Barney Jones, Activity Director, ICF/MR Unit, c/o Allentown State Hospital and Mr. Tom Smith, Therapeutic Recreation Specialist, Allentown Recreation Bureau. More information concerning the Institute may be obtained by contacting either Mr. Jones or Mr. Smith.

RECREATION SEMINAR

*Edna Silberman, Exec. Dir.
Aurora Club, Inc.
Harrisburg, PA 17110*

The Recreation Seminar sponsored by the Aurora Club, Inc., PA Resocialization groups, Dauphin County Parks and Recreation, and Harrisburg Community College held at the college on May 18-19, 1977 proved very successful.

People who work in direct contact with clients were among the majority of the participants. Workshops consisted of sessions on Physical and Social Recreation; Visual Arts; Performing Arts; and Community Resources.

It was requested by the participants that a similar seminar be conducted next year.

IMPLEMENTATION OF "504"

WHAT IT MEANS TO EMPLOYERS, CONSUMERS, PROGRAMS AND INSTITUTIONS



Passage (by HEW) of the much needed regulation which would implement section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 was met with great jubilation by the handicapped community and some sense of disgruntlement by many of those institutions and individuals (recipients of HEW funds) mandated with compliance within a strict time table.

Because the complete 504 document is extremely long and not easily available you may find the following summary will answer some of the questions you have on just what all of this means to you, your programs, your institution, etc. The summary was prepared by John H. Snyder, the Governor's Advocate for the Physically Handicapped.

REQUIREMENTS

Requirements placed on all recipients of Health, Education and Welfare Funds include:

1. All new facilities must be barrier-free.
2. Programs or activities in existing facilities must be accessible to the handicapped either by adapting (reassignment of classes or home visits) the program in 60 days or where structural changes are needed up to 3 years.
3. Employers may not refuse to hire handicapped persons.
4. Employers may not require pre-employment physical examinations only of the handicapped persons unless attempting to meet affirmative action goals.
5. Every handicapped child will be entitled to a free appropriate education. They may not be segregated in public schools, but educated with the non-handicapped in the most normal, feasible setting possible.
6. Educational institutions must yearly undertake to locate and identify unserved handicapped children.
7. Colleges and universities must make reasonable modifications in academic requirements, where necessary, to assure full educational opportunity for handicapped individuals.
8. Educational institutions and other social service programs must provide auxiliary aids such as readers for blind people and interpreters for the deaf persons.
9. All recipients of HEW funds must complete within one year a self-evaluation process, in consultation with handicapped consumers to determine which of their policies and practices need changed and/or updated to assure equal opportunity for the handicapped population.

TIME TABLE

June 3, 1977: effective date for regulation.

August 2, 1977 (60 days): Programs or activities in existing facilities must be made accessible where structural changes are not required.

September 2, 1977 (90 days): Every recipient of HEW funds must designate at least one person to coordinate its efforts to comply and adopt grievance procedures which shall include continuing to notify the employees (and the public in general) that the recipient does not discriminate in admission, access to, treatment nor employment in its programs and activities and must include the name of that coordinator.

December 2, 1977 (6 months): If structural changes are necessary to eliminate barriers, a plan outlining the steps to be taken to complete such changes must be developed and made available for public inspection. Such plan must be developed with the assistance of handicapped persons and/or organizations representing the handicapped.

June 2, 1978 (1 year): The self-evaluation process must be complete, in consultation with handicapped individuals and/or organizations representing handicapped.

September 2, 1978 (no later than): A recipient may not exclude any qualified handicapped persons from a free appropriate education in a public elementary or secondary school.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information materials are currently being developed by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The Office for Civil Rights is the enforcement agency for regulation 504. For additional information or policy interpretation, you may contact: Department of Health, Education and Welfare; Office for Civil Rights; Washington, D.C. 20201.

P. A. P. H.

An organization, comprised of local and state handicapped consumer groups, has been formed in PA. The non-profit group has adopted the name of Pennsylvania Alliance of the Physically Handicapped" (PAPH) and is currently soliciting additional groups for membership. Contact: P.A.P.H., c/o Robert Deiley, 121 N. Scenic St., Allentown, PA 18104.



THE GRAND STAND

VOL. I, NO. 3

GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE FOR THE PHYSICALLY
HANDICAPPED

SEPT./OCT. 1977

SERVICES FOR HANDICAPPED SHOPPERS

As a result of the Department of Consumer Affairs' campaign to gain equal rights in the market place for handicapped people, several New York stores are now providing special services to accommodate the needs of the handicapped shopper.

An expanded list of these stores and the facilities they provide is contained in the new edition of the Department's publication Consumer Rights for Disabled Citizens.

VALUABLE INFORMATION

This publication tells people which supermarkets have aisles wide enough for wheelchair passage, where to go for free delivery service, which banks will handle transactions for blind customers, how many stores have restrooms which are accessible to the handicapped, the availability of ramps or street level entrances at stores and recreational facilities, and what type of assistance is available to the handicapped traveller from airlines, hotels, trains, buses and travel agencies, etc.

LOCALLY??

What is being done in YOUR community? Could this be a worthwhile project for your own energetic organization?

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE SETS ORIENTATION MEETING

Plans have been announced to have an orientation for all members of the Implementation Task Forces, Sept. 23. Chairmen of PA Senate and House Committees will be invited to attend the full day session to become aware of goals emanating from the PA Gov's and White House Conferences on Handicapped Individuals.

LEGISLATIVE UP-DATE

SENATE BILL 807: The "PA Trails System Act" establishes a scenic and recreational trail system to meet the needs of hikers...and the special needs of the handicapped, elderly and those with limited mobility.

SENATE BILL 809: "Adult Protective Services Act": provides protective service for the infirm and handicapped adults; establishes boards for such protective services and provides confidentiality of their records and immunity of said board, its employees, etc. from civil or criminal liability in their decisions made without negligence or misconduct.

THE HANDICAPPED'S RIGHTS TO EDUCATION

State Rights to Education Task Force is making plans to help orient parents of

pre-school and school age children as to their rights and how to advocate for better education for their children. With the assistance of the Conference on Handicapped Individuals, Inc., evening workshops will be held this fall at appropriate places across the state. Watch for further announcements through the local Rights to Education Task Forces.

STATE PLAN FOR THE AGING



Robert C. Benedict, Commissioner, Office for the Aging and Ruth M. Tucker, chairwoman of the Advisory Committee, listen as testimony is given at the recent hearing on the State Plan for the Aging. The new State Plan includes added emphasis on the handicapped aging and those in homebound situations that cannot participate in a day care program.

THE GRAND STAND-PLANNER

504 State Street Building

Harrisburg, PA 17101

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Margot Mor, Contributing Editor of the Planner

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